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BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

SUMMONS TO ATTEND A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

TO: THE LORD MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND THE COUNCILLORS OF BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a special meeting of the Council, which has been called by the Lord Mayor following receipt of a requisition, will be held remotely via Teams on Thursday, 19th November, 2020 at 4.00 pm, for the transaction of the following business:

1. Summons
2. Apologies
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Motion - Food Poverty

Proposed by: Councillor Ciaran Beattie

Seconded by: Alderman George Dorrian

This Council takes note and commends the recent campaign of Marcus Rashford to eradicate child hunger over holiday periods and also the recent statement from Doctor Julie-Ann Maney, a paediatrician from the Royal Hospital for Sick Children who is urging government to tackle child poverty.

Food poverty is a massive issue in normal times and during this pandemic we have seen a huge increase in the demand for food from vulnerable people.

Our children, our vulnerable and our elderly should not be going hungry this Christmas.

We as elected members of this City will do all we can to help those in need.

Therefore this Council will create a fund of 300k and immediately distribute those funds to Neighbourhood Renewal areas across all 4 quarters of this city to provide food parcels for our citizens and communities who are in most need this Christmas.

The amount of funding per area will be scaled based on the population size of the particular Neighbourhood Renewal area.

Furthermore this council will work proactively with the Department of Communities to come up with additional funding beyond our council commitment to try and address food poverty across our city.

Additionally in order to get this money out in time this council agrees to give council officers delegated authority to engage and fund organisations who have previous experience in the distribution of food parcels.

Signed:

Councillor Ronan McLaughlin
Councillor JJ Magee
Councillor Nichola Bradley
Councillor Claire Canavan
Councillor Matt Garrett

The Members of Belfast City Council are hereby summoned to attend.

Suzanne Wylie

Chief Executive